THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) The Government of Arunachal Pradesh has intimated that the following Schemes for Modernisation and Expansion of Hospitals were taken up during the 9th Plan:—

(i) Construction of 20 bedded Mental ward at General Hospital, Naharlagun, under District Mental Health Programme;

(ii) Strengthening of Emergency Care Services at General Hospital Pasighat with a sanctioned amount of Rs. 59 lakhs under Pilot Project Scheme of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for upgradation and strengthening of Emergency facilities of State Hospitals of towns/ cities located on National Highways.

(iii) Construction of 10 bedded Eye Ward with dedicated O.T. at General Hospital, Pasighat and District Hospital Tawang;

(iv) Completion of Blood Bank Building at Naharlagun General Hospital, Pasighat General Hospital, Tawang District Hospital and Deporijo District Hospital.

(b) One proposal for strengthening of General Hospital, Naharlagun under Pilot Project scheme for upgradation and strengthening of Emergency facilities of States Hospitals of towns/cities located on National Highways and two proposals for General Hospitals Naharlagun and Pasighat under Pilot Project for Hospital Waste Management at Hospital have been received from Government of Arunachal Pradesh.

Dispute of Star and Oretal Companies

*395. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the Eastern Zone, particularly in Orissa, national channels and cable operators are enhancing their rates;

(b) whether although they are repeatedly increasing the rates, the service is not upto the standard and all seven channels of Star TV are not seen in Orissa because of the dispute of Star and Oretal Companies; and

(c) whether Government propose to intervene to ensure the Star National Channel and Oretal Company resolve the issue, so that people from Orissa could see the Star Channel immediately?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Government does not regulate the charges levied by private channels and cable operators and neither does it maintain data in this respect. According to available information, there is a dispute between STAR TV and M/s Oretal both of whom are private companies. Government has no *locus standi* in the matter.

Syllabus in Government Medical Colleges

†*396. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government medical colleges in the country;

(b) whether there is a uniform syllabus in all Government medical colleges;

(c) if so, whether all the medical colleges have been provided with similar facilities; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (d) There are 113 Government Medical Colleges functioning in the country out of which 106 are recognised by the Medical Council of India and 7 have been permitted u/s 10A of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, by the Central Government.

All the medical colleges in Government or in non-governmental sector have to follow the Regulations of the Medical Council of India on Graduate Medical Education, 1997, which gives the details of the curriculum to be taught at the MBBS level by the concerned colleges.

The medical colleges, whether in the Government or in the non-Government sector, are required to provide infrastructural facilities depending on the intake capacity including staff etc. for imparting medical education as per the Minimum Standard Requirement for the Medical College Regulations, 1999.

Amendment in the Representation of People Act

†*397. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to formulate any policy for

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.